

TWO NEW SPECIES OF TREMATODES OF THE GENUS PARAMETORCHIS FROM FUR-BEARING ANIMALS

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In this paper two trematodes which appear to be new species are described. These flukes belong to the family Opisthorchiidae Braun, 1901, and to the genus *Parametorchis* Skrjabin, 1913. The first of these species was forwarded to the Bureau of Animal Industry, October 13, 1927, by Dr. J. E. Shillinger, of the Bureau of Biological Survey, who collected them from the gall bladder of a silver fox from Wisconsin. For this species the name *Parametorchis intermedius* is proposed. The second species, comprising about a dozen specimens, was collected from the gall bladder of a mink by Dr. Ronald G. Law, of the Experimental Fur Farm, Kirkfield, Ontario, and forwarded to the Bureau of Animal Industry for identification on February 2, 1929. For this species the name *Parametorchis canadensis* is proposed.

The genus to which these species obviously belong was proposed by Skrjabin (1913) and is characterized as follows:

Genus **PARAMETORCHIS** Skrjabin, 1913

Generic diagnosis.—Flattened, moderate-sized distomes, attenuated anteriorly and rounded posteriorly. Cuticle spiny. Suckers equal in size and weakly developed; acetabulum at the border of the first and second fourth of body length. Pharynx and a smaller esophagus present. Intestinal ceca extend to posterior end of body. Testes lobed and arranged tandem in posterior half of body. Uterus rosette-shaped, in anterior half of body, surrounding the acetabulum. Vitellaria lateral of uterus, in anterior half of body, and uniting in front of uterus. Ovary lobed, cephalad of testes. Receptaculum seminis moderately large, lateral of ovary. Parasites of the gall bladder of mammals.

Type species.—*Parametorchis complexus* (Stiles and Hassall, 1894).

PARAMETORCHIS INTERMEDIUS, new species

Specific diagnosis.—*Parametorchis*: Body linguiform, the anterior end attenuated and posterior end rounded, 3 to 3.5 mm. long by 1 mm. wide in the region of the anterior testis. Oral sucker terminal, 155μ to 262μ long by 232μ to 278μ wide, weakly muscular. Prepharynx absent; pharynx strongly muscular, 170μ to 186μ long by 140μ wide. Esophagus very short; intestinal ceca wide and sinuous, terminating 77μ to 124μ from the posterior end of body. Acetabulum weakly developed, slightly oval transversely, 150μ long by 200μ wide, and situated about 775μ to 997μ from the anterior end. Testes deeply lobed, tandem or slightly oblique, and situated in the posterior half of body. The anterior testis is from 262μ to 310μ long by 325μ to 496μ wide and the posterior from 310μ to 500μ long by 387μ to 496μ wide. Cirrus pouch absent. Seminal vesicle slender and sinuous, and usually obscured by the convolutions of the uterus. Ovary trilobed, 108μ to 140μ long by 200μ to 260μ wide, and situated a short distance in front

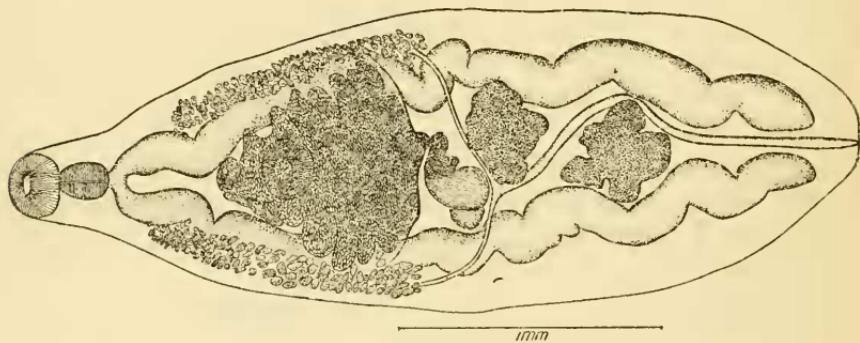


FIGURE 1.—*PARAMETORCHIS INTERMEDIUS*, NEW SPECIES. VENTRAL VIEW

of the anterior testis. Receptaculum seminis elongated and slightly twisted, and situated to the right and caudad of the ovary. Vitellaria lateral, extending from slightly behind the level of the esophageal bifurcation to the level of the anterior border of the ovary. Uterus composed of close transverse coils and extending from ovary to a short distance in front of acetabulum. Genital pore median, about 850μ from the anterior end of body. Excretory canal sigmoid, branching at the level of the anterior border of the anterior testis, the two branches extending extracecally to about the level of the pharynx; excretory pore terminal. Eggs oval, 30μ long by 15μ wide, and yellowish brown in color.

Host.—Silver fox (*Vulpes fulva*.)

Location.—Gall bladder.

Distribution.—United States (Wisconsin.)

Type specimens.—United States National Museum Helminthological Collection No. 27857; paratypes No. 28179.

This species apparently occupies a position intermediate between *Parametorchis complexus*, which was described by Stiles and Hassall (1894), from the gall bladder of cats from New York, Maryland, and District of Columbia, and *P. noveboracensis* which was described by Hung (1926) from the gall bladder of a cat from New York. In the former species the testes are deeply lobed and the vitellaria unite in the median line forming a **U** around the uterus; in the latter species the testes are almost round, the posterior being only slightly indented, and the vitellaria do not unite in front of the uterus. The peculiar character of the vitellaria in *P. complexus* appears to be constant and not changed by host relationship. Specimens of this species which the writer has examined (U. S. N. M. No. 14407), collected January 21, 1907, by E. C. Stevenson from a blue fox which died in the National Zoological Park, Washington, D. C., conform in this respect to the type specimens from the cat. *P. intermedius* is considerably smaller than either *P. complexus* or *P. noveboracensis*.

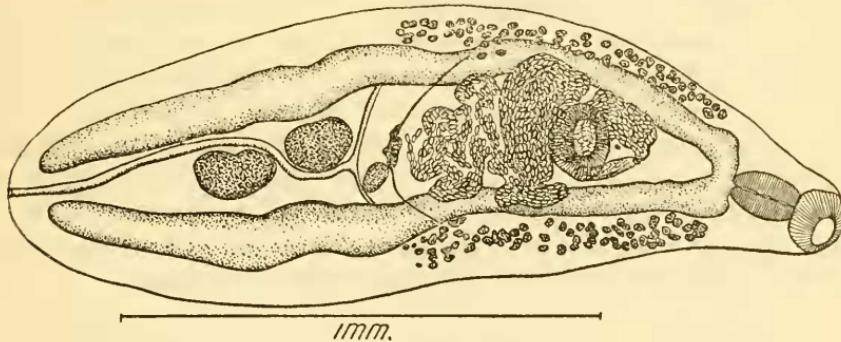


FIGURE 2.—*PARAMETORCHIS CANADENSIS*, NEW SPECIES. DORSAL VIEW

The body form and shape of the testes are similar to the former species, but the arrangement of the vitellaria is similar to that in the latter species. On the basis of these differences, the writer feels justified in considering *P. intermedius* a distinct species.

PARAMETORCHIS CANADENSIS, new species

Specific diagnosis.—*Parametorchis*: Body linguiform, transparent, 1.7 to 2 mm. long 590μ to 687μ wide in the region of the anterior testis. Cuticle missing owing to the somewhat macerated condition of the specimens. Oral sucker terminal, 93μ to 108μ long by 140μ to 155μ wide. Prepharynx absent; pharynx muscular, 108μ to 140μ long by 62μ to 93μ wide. Esophagus very short; intestinal ceca slightly sinuous, terminating 70μ to 90μ from the posterior end of the body. Acetabulum 125μ long by 140μ wide, weakly muscular, and situated about 470μ from the anterior end. Testes oval or slightly indented, and situated tandem in the posterior half of body; they are about equal

in size, 186 μ long by 125 μ wide. Cirrus pouch absent. Seminal vesicle slender and sinuous, its posterior end lying on a level with the center of the acetabulum. Ovary trilobed, small, and situated about twice its own length in front of the bifurcation of the excretory vesicle. Receptaculum seminis large and pyriform, and situated to the right and caudad of the ovary. Vitellaria lateral, extending from a short distance caudad of the esophagus bifurcation to the level of the ovary. Uterus composed of close transverse coils which are filled with small eggs. The genital pore is situated 400 μ to 600 μ from the anterior end of body. Excretory system similar to that in other species of the genus. Eggs oval, 22 μ long by 11 μ wide, and yellowish brown in color.

Host.—Mink (*Mustela vison*).

Location.—Gall bladder.

Distribution.—Canada (Kirkfield, Ontario).

Type specimens.—United States National Museum Helminthological Collection No. 28180; paratypes No. 28366.

This species is much smaller than any of the other species of the genus. It resembles *P. intermedius* in many respects but is more transparent, the testes are oval instead of being lobed, and the egg is slightly smaller. Since the specimens of both of these species are fully mature, the writer feels that in view of a lack of information in regard to the influence of different hosts on the size of trematodes of this genus, these forms should be considered as separate species.

For further comparison of the more important characters of the species of *Parametorchis*, the following table is appended.

Comparative table of characters of species of Parametorchis

	<i>Parametorchis complexus</i>	<i>Parametorchis noveboracensis</i>	<i>Parametorchis intermedius</i>	<i>Parametorchis canadensis</i>
Body form	Linguiform	Linguiform	Linguiform	Linguiform
Size:				
Length	5 to 7 mm	6 to 6.3 mm	3 to 3.5 mm	1.7 to 2 mm.
Width	1.5 to 2 mm	2.2 to 2.6 mm	1 mm.	590 to 687 μ .
Oral sucker	330 to 390 μ	232 to 242 μ	155 to 262 μ by 232 to 278 μ	93 to 108 μ by 140 to 155 μ .
Acetabulum	330 to 390 μ		150 μ by 200 μ	125 μ by 140 μ .
Pharynx		232 to 242 μ by 281 to 300 μ	170 to 186 μ by 140 μ	108 to 140 μ by 62 to 93 μ .
Ovary	Trilobed	Trilobed	Trilobed	Trilobed.
Intestinal ceca	Simmons	Almost straight	Simous	Slightly sinuous.
Testes	Lobed	Almost round	Lobed	Oval or slightly lobed.
Uterus	Rosette-shaped	Rosette-shaped	Compact transverse coils.	Compact transverse coils.
Vitellaria	United in front of uterus.	Not united	Not united	Not united.
Receptaculum seminis	Pyriform	Pyriform	Slightly twisted	Pyriform.
Egg	24 μ by 12 μ	28-32 μ by 15-18 μ	30 μ by 15 μ	22 μ by 11 μ .

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